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The ACO Experiment

Welcome to the Health Freedom Minute. This is Twila Brase, president of Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

Two health plans claim they are cutting cost through a seven-year “learning lab” for the Obamacare Accountable Care Organization (the ACO). They are pooling resources, sharing patient medical records and mining the insurance data of about 27,000 privately insured patients.

Physicians are told to prescribe more generics, pregnant women who want induced labor are sent home, urgent care has been expanded, and patients with chronic conditions are identified for intervention.

The insurers refuse to reveal the added costs of staffing and technology. So I have three questions: One, how do we know costs are reduced? Two, can they do all this for their one and a half million enrollees? And three, do they get patient consent before putting them in this experiment?

Learn more by signing up for our monthly newsletter at healthfreedomminute.net.

“Unlikely allies take scalpel to medical costs,” Jackie Crosby, Star Tribune, October 30, 2011.

The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 37 states: Mornings M-Th at AM1280 (The Patriot) in MN and 91.5 AM WHKC (FreedomFM) in OH and afternoons on American Family Radio.